

July 30, 2013

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Board Members Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Dear Board Members and Department Personnel,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to have my comments read into the record. Kindly give them your attention and consideration.

My name is Gary MacDonald and I have lived in Bayview for sixty-two years. My family has owned and operated MacDonald's Hudson Bay Resort since 1951. The park has always been my back yard and I have personally seen its transformation from a decommissioned navy base to a truly beautiful place where many people come to enjoy nature and natural beauty. It should be noted that many boards and many managers have supervised the park and I really do believe that they all have had the best of intentions.

That being said, it is a fact that <u>not</u> all decisions regarding the park have been good ones and I chalk that up to our being an imperfect species. That statement brings us to the current issue of logging along the lakefront and the acreage along Idlewild Bay.

Before I continue I want to note that I served on the board for the Lakeland School District for fourteen years. I think that you, as board members, will agree that board members only have so much time for their important job and board members generally allow the staff to run the district. The staff are professionals and I always appreciated their input, training, and knowledge. The administrative team, principals, directors, etc. made plans, dealt with issues, and mostly did the right thing. However, even during my tenure, there were times when the staff just didn't get it right. That is when the board members had to step in and say, "well, wait a minute, what really should be done in this situation."

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NEEDS some wild areas and I would ask you to PLEASE leave the shoreline alone. It is such a resource for the state and trees grow so slowly. Please don't change its look.

In all of our lives we go down the merry path thinking that all is well with the world until something wakes us up. We want to trust those in authority to look at the big picture and make the right decision. I believe that on the subject before you the board needs to step back and say "wait a minute, what is really the right thing to do?" I think the right thing is to STOP, look again, and listen to the people who have taken the time to protect something that is very special. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Gary MacDonald